BEFORE

THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF

SOUTH CAROLINA

DOCKET NO. 93-331-E - ORDER NO. 93-572

JUNE 29, 1993

IN RE: Request by Duke Power Company for Approval) ORDER of Revisions to its Residential Rate) APPROVING Schedules RE and RS.) REVISION) OF RATE) SCHEDULES) RE AND RS

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (the Commission) by way of letter dated May 21, 1993, from Duke Power Company (Duke) requesting Commission approval to revise its Residential Rate Schedules RE and RS. The proposed changes are in response to new building code standards implemented by the State of South Carolina, effective January 1, 1993.

Duke seeks to amend Category 2 of Schedule RE (RE-2) so that the requirements to qualify for the lower conservation rate exceed building code standards. Duke proposes to modify RE-2 to exceed the current thermal conditioning requirements by (1) increasing thermal conditioning requirements for walls from R-12 to R-16; (2) requiring permanent duct sealing and a maximum cfm air leakage of 3% of the net heated floor area of the house; and (3) increasing heat pump and central A/C minimum SEER requirements to 11. The proposed changes to RE-2 would only apply to new structures, and

not to residences currently served or for structures presently under construction.

Duke also proposes to close the availability of Category 3 of Schedule RS (RS-3) and Category 4 of Schedule RS (RS-4) to all new homes and upgrades after June 1, 1993. Customers currently receiving service on RS-3 or RS-4 will continue to be served at the present rate as long as the residences qualified before June 1, 1993, and continue to meet the current thermal requirements.

After due consideration of the matter, the Commission finds and concludes that the request by Duke for approval to revise its Residential Rate Schedules RE-2, RS-3, and RS-4 in response to the South Carolina Building Code changes should be approved. However, the Commission is of the opinion that the effective date of the revisions should be the date of this Order.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

- 1. Duke Power Company is allowed to revise Category 2 of Schedule RE of its Residential Rate Schedules to (1) increase the thermal conditioning requirements for walls from R-12 to R-16; (2) require permanent duct sealing and a maximum cfm air leakage of 3% of the net heated floor area of the house; and (3) increase heat pump and central A/C minimum SEER requirements to 11.
- 2. For residences presently served or for which construction began prior to the date of this Order, the current requirements of RE-2 will apply.
- 3. Duke Power Company is allowed to close the availability of Categories 3 and 4 of Schedule RS of its Residential Rate

Schedules to new homes and upgrades.

- 4. Residences presently served on RS-3 or RS-4 will continue to be so served, provided the residences qualified prior to the date of this Order and continue to meet the current requirements.
- 5. The effective date of the revisions covered by this Order shall be the date of this Order, and the Company shall file ten (10) copies of each schedule within ten (10) days of the date of this Order.
- 6. This Order shall remain in full force and effect until further Order of the Commission.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Chairman

ATTEST:

Executive Director

(SEAL)